

**Lincoln, Nebraska
May 13, 2005**

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

The Community Corrections Council (Council) met Friday, May 13, 2005, 9:00 a.m., at the Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was open to the public and was preceded by advance publicized notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

Members present:

Dr. Scot L. Adams
William Burgess
Esther Casmer
The Honorable Karen B. Flowers
Dr. Aileen Gruendel
Julie Hippen
Robert Houston
The Honorable John P. Icenogle
Joe Kelly
Robert Lindemeier
Jim McKenzie
Mike Overton
Senator John Synowiecki
Janice Walker
Dave Wegner
Senator Kermit A. Brashear, Chair

Council staff present:

Linda Krutz, Chief
Julie Okray
Julie L. Rogers

Others present:

Robert Bell
Ellen Brokofsky
Howard Kensinger
Steve King
John Krejci
Frank Jenson
Jim Pieper

Member absent:

Catherine Cook

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME & OVERVIEW

Chairperson Brashear called the Council meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and gave an overview of the meeting. Attendance is indicated above.

Chairperson Brashear welcomed new members Esther Casmer, Chairperson, Board of Parole; Robert Houston, Director, Department of Correctional Services; and Janice Walker, Court Administrator. Meeting protocol was discussed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 18, 2005, meeting stood approved as presented.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FEE REPORT

The Community Corrections Fee Report, presented by Howard Kensinger of the Legislative Fiscal Office, was reviewed. It was noted that included as a provision in the Governor's budget was a one-time transfer of approximately \$300,000 of the Uniform Data Analysis Fund dollars to the Law Enforcement Training Center. The Appropriations Committee included the provision in the main budget bill.

TARGET POPULATION REPORT

The standard Target Population Report was highlighted by Mike Overton of the Crime Commission. Overton pointed out that compared to last year, Corrections felony drug offender population numbers are up, and Probation and Parole felony drug offender population numbers are down.

Overton mentioned that relative to the Uniform Data Analysis Fund, the data committee he coordinates has contracted with the Vera Institute of Justice to establish data collection standardization for modeling data based on the Council's needs.

TIMELINE

The Timeline was approved as presented.

JUSTICE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TEAM

Ellen Brokofsky of the Justice Substance Abuse Team (JSAT) (formerly named the Substance Abuse Work Team) gave the Council an update on what JSAT has been doing to date. Brokofsky explained JSAT will be putting out a regularly updated newsletter to keep Council members and other interested parties and stakeholders informed. JSAT decided to formally support the state applying for the Federal Access to Recovery Grant, though it is not known when the grant will be announced this year. Brokofsky gave an overview of JSAT's 3 new sub-committees: Curriculum, Data, and Strategic Planning.

PENDING PROPOSALS

Jim McKenzie, Parole Administrator, presented a utilization of programming fees proposal. Parole proposed to partner with Probation in utilizing the Specialized Substance Abuse Services (SSAS) program. McKenzie explained that both Parole and Probation Administrations will work out a reimbursement plan where Parole programming fees will be used to reimburse Probation for SSAS services. The Parole Administration staff would provide the formal supervision of parolees participating in SSAS.

Council member Bill Burgess *made a motion to enable Parole to develop a contract for SSAS services including final terms and conditions, subject to the Council's ratification upon presentation of the contract.* The motion was seconded by Scot Adams and approved.

METHAMPHETAMINE STUDY

Linda Krutz, Council Chief, explained and gave an overview of the Methamphetamine Study that was given to the Community Corrections Council to oversee. The Council reviewed and discussed the draft on the study parameters. The process for the study was outlined

The Council recessed at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

METHAMPHETAMINE STUDY (CONTINUED)

It was decided by consensus that the evaluation committee formed for the Methamphetamine Study might include, but not be limited to, Dave Wegner, Ron Sorenson, Mike Overton, Steve King, Linda Krutz, Julie Rogers and possibly one or two treatment providers. The parameters will continue to be developed, the RFP language will be circulated to Council members, and any necessary changes will be reported back to Council staff.

COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

Linda Krutz, Council Chief, explained the need for the Council to develop process and procedure for Council support for grant applications. The Council agreed that a process for support shall be developed through use of a sub-committee. Producing Council-specific letterhead paper was discussed.

PROBATION & PAROLE STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Linda Krutz, Council Chief, informed Council members of the Probation and Parole Strategic Planning Meeting facilitated by the Vera Institute of Justice to be held June 23 - 24, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Lincoln. The meeting will primarily facilitate future strategic planning for "doing business" within Probation and Parole under the SSAS program.

SENTENCING GUIDELINES STATUS - DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

Dave Wegner, Probation Co-Administrator, updated the Council on the status of sentencing guidelines as it relates to Probation's data modeling of the guidelines. Probation is working with Mike Overton and Steve King on the modeling process.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senator Synowiecki and Senator Brashear reviewed current legislation. LB 425 was discussed, which is the main appropriations bill. Included in the bill is \$200,000 funding for a Methamphetamine Study under the Community Corrections Council, funding for substance abuse treatment of felony offenders in the amount of \$2.5 million over 2 years, as well as funding for 32 new probation officer positions. Also discussed was LB 538, the bill introduced on behalf of the Council. The current status of LB 538 is that it is in committee and the Committee Amendment is being actively negotiated.

CONCLUDING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT

Any Council member wanting to attend the Probation and Parole Strategic Planning Meeting is to contact Linda Krutz or Julie Rogers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Council is Friday, June 17, 2005, 9:00 a.m., in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Okray